

BULLETIN

of the
MAHONING COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY

Volume XLIV

APRIL, 1979

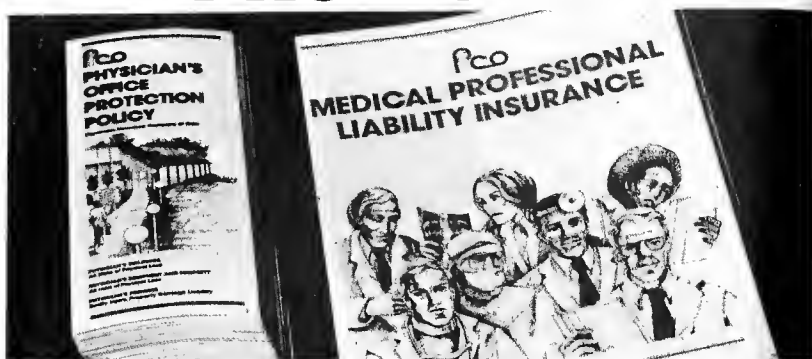
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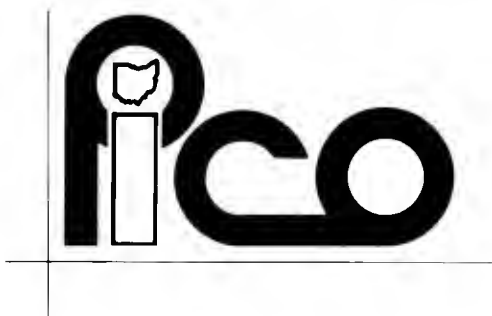


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MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS — 1979

Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Jan. 16	Mar. 20	May 22	Sept. 18	Nov. 20	Dec. 18

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From the Desk of the President



Here is my plea for the reduction of X-ray use. In this scientific age, everyone seems to think that we probably know what is the safety level of X-ray radiation. However, the assumption is wrong. Throughout the last 30 years the dosage that was generally held safe has gradually been considerably reduced. Thirty years ago it was not uncommon that people having hirsutism or acne were being treated by radiation to the face. Parotiditis was being treated by X-ray. Treating benign conditions persisted even until very recent times.

People use X-ray to treat keloids, thymus gland tumors, and its use has even persisted until now where dermatologists still use it for assorted uses for dermatological conditions.

We have generally held that the dosages we use are safe. However, are they really? Take a closer examination of recent years. We have found that thyroid cancer is found to be exceedingly high in the people who have received X-ray radiation to the thymus or head and neck area. What we previously have held to be a safe level has been gradually found to be unsafe after all.

Everyday when you walk by the emergency room you see a parade of parents and friends bringing the friends or children to the emergency room. "I want an X-ray of my wrist." "I want an X-ray of my head." "I want an X-ray of my foot." It is not unusual for people having any form of automobile accident to have a total body X-ray. A child that has had a fall will have a full set of skull X-rays and cervical spine as well. Are all these X-ray examinations necessary? I don't believe so. The public generally feels that if they do not have an X-ray examination they are somewhat cheated. They feel that something has been left out and that something might have been discovered by use of X-ray.

The problem is compounded by the malpractice cases that are sought after by lawyers. If a physician does not take X-rays to prove that he thoroughly covered all aspects of a case, and if something else is found at a later date, the doctor gets blamed for not taking X-rays, and finds himself on the hook.

~~I would like to make a plea that it is about time for every~~ of us, as physicians, to educate our patients that when a patient walks into emergency or our office we are treating the patient rather than the X-ray. Let me make an example: for X-ray of the facial bones. You can have a previous fracture of the facial bones where it is already

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BULLETIN

of the Mahoning County Medical Society

Published Monthly for and by the Members

1005 Belmont Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio 44504 Not published in May,
Phone 747-4956 July and August.

Volume XLIV

APRIL, 1979



Number 4

The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

EDITOR

H. S. Wang, M.D.

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John C. Melnick, M.D.
James A. Lambert, M.D.
Jack Schreiber, M.D.

Editorial

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & TOMORROW

Only forty years ago Dr. E. C. Baker wrote, "The Use of X-Ray in Tuberculosis", in this *Bulletin*. It is appropriate that we summarize and evaluate some of the changes that have appeared in medicine within the past decade. Such summary is not really aimed toward the present reader, but rather to those physicians who will be contemporaries of our grandchildren. This is a story of progress, but also of regression.

Dr. Baker wrote of X-Ray at a time when many radiologists were losing fingers — victims of the same rays that helped in tuberculosis. It would thrill him, as it does us, to witness the breakthrough we have in CAT scanning (Computerized Axial Tomography). This technique differentiates air, water, tissue, and objects of heavier density. All of this is accomplished with far less X-Ray exposure than was used for Dr. Baker's tubercular patients. The CAT scanner is a superb diagnostic tool. There are three such instruments in our county, representing an investment of close to a million dollars.

Progress is reported in many other areas as well. The World Health Organization has announced that Smallpox has been eliminated from our earth. Thus vaccination begun by Edward Jenner in 1796 has now conquered a disease that historically ravaged all of mankind, and whose deprivations wrote history. The first externally conceived (test tube) child, Louise Brown, is now alive and well at nine months of age.

In our own area, Youngstown State University, Kent and Akron Universities have joined to form the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM). Many of our confreres are serving as faculty and advisors. Health facilities have been enhanced with the dedication of St. Elizabeth's new south extension wing. Youngstown Hospital has very recently put into service at its North Unit a new wing which contains a new surgical suite, intensive care, and ambulatory services. A parking deck is nearing completion at the South Unit. This year also saw the closing of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, though neither Dr. Baker's X-Rays, nor modern chemotherapy have yet put tuberculosis in the same category as small-pox.

This progress must not blind us to our painfully slow progress in some fields where we seem to measure gains in inches not miles, nor to other

(Continued on Page 82)

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OSMA LAWSUIT DISMISSED

The Ohio State Medical Association has announced the voluntary dismissal of a lawsuit brought against the Association in 1975 by the Ohio Attorney General's office which challenged OSMA's ownership of Ohio Medical Indemnity, Ohio's largest Blue Shield plan.

OSMA voted to "mutualize" the Blue Shield plan which, in effect, gives the company to Blue Shield's 3.5 million subscribers. The Blue Shield plan, which paid over \$245 million last year in subscriber benefits, will continue to operate as a non-profit company, with no monetary gain to be made by any individual or group.

In connection with the dismissal of the suit, a \$1 million charitable grant will be made by Blue Shield in the name of the Ohio State Medical Association to Ohio's seven medical schools. The grant will be used to further the development of programs in geriatric medicine.

Blue Shield was created by Ohio's physicians in 1945 to meet the needs of individuals and small groups who were being denied medical insurance at any price because of the belief by the insurance industry that small groups and individuals were poor insurance risks. The strong belief by members of the OSMA that this practice was inappropriate, led to the formation of Ohio Medical Indemnity. Ohio Medical Indemnity's excellent rate of success has proven the validity of that belief.

OSMA President John J. Gaughan, M.D., expressed the Association's pride in the role it has played in providing medical insurance to millions of Ohioans over the past 33 years and expressed confidence that this success would continue.

"We are certain that Ohio Medical Indemnity will maintain its leadership role in guaranteeing that Ohio citizens will continue to have access to the highest quality of medical care," Dr. Gaughan said.

The dismissal of the suit came after all parties involved agreed to all points in the settlement, the most important of which was the mutualization of the company.

DR. SCHREIBER WINS NATIONAL SPEECH AWARD

Dr. Jack Schreiber won first award in the television news category of the first annual Physician Speaker Competition, sponsored by the American Medical Association. The prize consisted of a plaque for Dr. Schreiber and a \$1000 check for the Mahoning County Medical Society. Presentation was made at the AMA National Leadership Conference in Chicago.

For the competition, Dr. Schreiber submitted a television tape of a program on which he had discussed National Health Insurance, and which was broadcast over Channel 45.

Dr. Schreiber presented the check to the Medical Society at the March 20th meeting. The money is designated to be used for enhancing the speakers program of the Society.

The AMA has announced rules for the second national awards program for medical speakers. Anyone who makes a presentation between January and November, 1979 is eligible to enter. The seven categories for speakers are: Television News Show, Television Talk Show, Radio News or Talk Show, The Physician as TV or Radio Host, Public Audience Speech, Professional Audience Speech, and Testimony. A copy of the rules and application blank is available at the Mahoning County Medical Society.

NO MAY ISSUE

The next issue of the *Bulletin* will be published in June. There will be no May issue. The *Bulletin* publishes nine months a year, omitting the months of May, July and August.

Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 79)

areas where we seem to be losing ground. Prevention and treatment of such major problems as arteriosclerosis, diabetes, cancer, hypertension, and mental illness, still eludes us. Organ transplants seem very tempting, but would seem to require more knowledge of human immune reactions. Drug abuse has assumed epidemic proportions and emphasizes the social aspects of medical practice. Venereal disease is rising. Cigarette smoking is rising amongst young people.

Thirty years ago in this *Bulletin* Dr. John McCann wrote urging the members against the temptations of Socialized Medicine. We are closer to this condition now than ever before. In addition, many paramedical groups are attempting to practice medicine by virtue of legislative action.

Costs of hospital care is rising at a double digit rate. It has become impossible for the average person to withstand the economic pinch of illness without some health insurance. This fact is reflected by the increasing political concern for what is being done in medicine.

So, we leave to our grandchildren a record of progress, but we leave them a wealth of difficult problems to challenge them and allow their zeal to find success.

—Hai-Shiuh Wang, M.D.
Editor

From the Desk of the President . . .

(Continued from Page 78)

stabilized, and further X-ray examination, even after years, may still show signs of the previous fracture. You may have a patient who has a fracture of some part of the facial bones showing fracture on the X-ray examination but showing no depression clinically which does not require any surgical intervention. The depression part can be detected by physical examination. Without a clinical finding, relying on taking a laboratory examination and trying to put the burden onto the radiography or the radiologist is grossly unfair to the radiologist.

Throughout our lifetime there are occasions when we will require a radiographic examination, and indeed the progress of scanning, isotope scanning, as well as different kinds of radiographic procedures is advancing. The chance that we will be needing the service is getting greater and greater; and I feel that it is our duty to educate our patients to withhold all unnecessary X-ray examination as much as possible so that the total radiation to the patient will be brought down to a minimum. Then when the time comes where an absolute indicated condition appears and the patient will require an examination, he will not be overly radiated.

—Y. T. Chiu, M.D.
President

EAR-PIERCING RULED NON-MEDICAL

The Ohio Medical Board's long-standing ruling that ear-piercing is the practice of medicine has been reversed by the Ohio Attorney General. He noted that the Ohio Revised Code specifies that the definition of the practice of medicine involves "... the cure or relief of a wound, fracture or bodily injury, infirmity, or disease ..." and that ear piercing is not intended for such treatment. He also said, "Any issues of whether more drastic cosmetic procedures would fall within the statutory definition must be considered on their own merits."

—OSMAgram, March 22
Ohio State Medical Association



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- *Mark Libertin
- *Stephen Sferra

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- Annette Fabiny
- Christopher Robert Schreiber

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- Wendy Hudak
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13TH SCHOLARSHIP DINNER THIS MONTH

The 13th annual Scholarship Dinner of the Mahoning County Medical Society will be held on Thursday, April 26 at Ramada Inn. Sixty-one students from 25 area high schools will be honored for scholastic achievement. Their names are listed on the opposite page.

Sally Hotchkiss, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, Youngstown State University will be the speaker. Dr. Gerald Klebanoff, chairman will be master of ceremonies. They, along with Dr. and Mrs. Y. T. Chiu, will take part in the presentation of pins and certificates to the honorees.

A number of doctors and wives will attend as hosts for the young people. The Medical Society is still seeking two more volunteer couples to complete the seating arrangements. Anyone interested in attending should call the Medical Society office, 747-4956.

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A. Randell
S. Zlotnick
F. E. Shaw
Y. Jung

April 24

B. P. Brucoli

April 25

M. J. Vuksta

April 26

A. T. Laird
A. H. B. Lee

April 28

S. G. Patton, Jr.

May 3

C. Waltner

May 4

M. Karmindro
G. L. Chentow

May 6

J. A. Hyland

May 7

M. M. Masry

May 9

G. E. DeCicco

May 11

G. W. Cook
B. Mirvis

May 12

H. S. Banninga
W. J. Tims

May 13

E. R. McNeal
B. A. Bacani

May 14

W. E. Sovik
C. M. Kohli

May 15

K. R. Prasad

May 17

C. C. White

May 18

S. F. Gaylord
L. M. Deppisch

May 20

T. F. Barrett

May 21

M. A. Soares

May 23

M. W. Neidus
J. W. Tandatnick
W. J. Cleary

May 24

A. Calder
J. J. Wasilko

May 25

B. B. Burrowes
M. I. Jacobson

May 27

G. B. Pugh

May 28

C. H. McGowen
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May 30

H. L. Allen

June 4

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June 5

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S. K. Mishr

June 9

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J. Noll
M. F. Sheridan

June 10

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J. P. Shah

June 12

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"DOCTORS WEEK" IN MAY

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Mahoning County Medical Society is observing the week of May 7th as Doctor's Week. During this week, the auxiliary wishes to honor physicians for the many services they have provided for our community.

On Monday, May 7th, auxiliary members will give flowers to physicians as they enter the three Youngstown hospitals, Youngstown Hospital Association, north and south units, and St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Bouquets of flowers will also be placed in the resident and intern rooms and cafeterias of the three hospitals. Mrs. J. V. Chaves is chairman of activities to honor physicians. She is assisted by her committee: Mrs. Robert Bacani, Mrs. Danny Chung, Mrs. Musli Karmindo and Mrs. Parvis Soleimani.

Doctor's Week will culminate on Friday, May 11th, with a Dinner and Disco Evening, which will be held at the Youngstown Club. Cocktails will begin at 7:30 p.m. with dinner at 8:30 p.m. Entertainment and a disco demonstration will be provided by "Spoke" Wayne. The thirteenth floor of the Youngstown Club will be lit up with lights and a crystal ball. Mrs. Daniel Handel is chairman for the evening. Her committee members are Mrs. Harold Chevlen, Mrs. James Dallis, Mrs. Nazim Jaffer, Mrs. James Kline and Mrs. Richard Memo.

SEND COMPLETED CME LOGS EARLY

Any physician who has completed his 150 hours of continuing medical education should send his record to the Ohio State Medical Board at his earliest convenience. The Board urges early reporting in order to avoid an anticipated deluge of records during the final month of 1979.

Physicians have until Dec. 31 to complete the 150 hours required for relicensing. Several comprehensive articles on CME were published in the December issue of the Ohio State Medical Journal. Included was a log of CME activities and a receipt card to be returned to the doctor by the Medical Board. The articles stress that licenses expire on midnight of Dec. 31, and that, by Jan. 1, 1980, in accordance with the law, there will be no more time for compliance.

STOP SMOKING CLINIC

The American Cancer Society is sponsoring its seventh Stop Smoking Clinic. The Clinic will be held at the Maronite Center, 1555 Meridian Road, Austintown. The dates for the free clinic are April 16, 17, 18, 19 and 23. The programs begin each night at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m. Participants are asked to come to all or as many of the programs as possible to receive the most benefit from the clinic.

If any members of the Medical Society wish to put announcements of the clinic in their offices, please notify the American Cancer Society at 830 E. Midlothian Blvd., Youngstown, Ohio 44502, or call Doris Wike at the unit office at 788-5048.

NEWS NOTES

The Medical Society acknowledges, with thanks, the donation of old medical material for the proposed museum. Dr. G. E. DeCicco brought in an old centrifuge, and Mrs. Robert P. Meader donated a number of Dr. Meader's old instruments.

Dr. Harold Chevlen won first prize in the nation-wide photo contest sponsored by Diversion Magazine. His slide was one of 30,000 entries. Photographers please take note: The *Bulletin* is seeking cover photos of local scenes.



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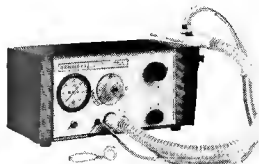
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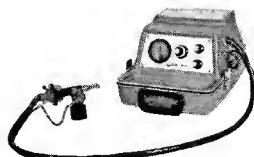


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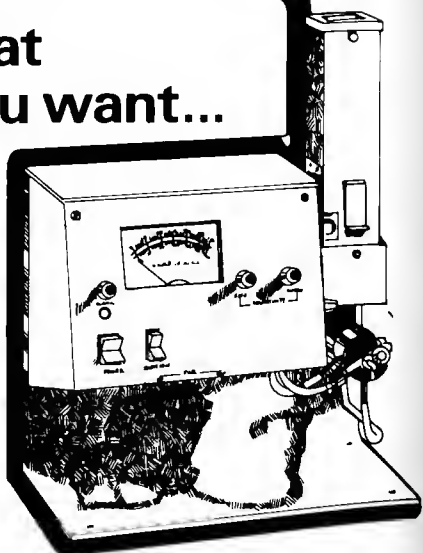
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From the Bulletin

FORTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1939

Leading the group from the University of Pennsylvania who came to us for Post-Graduate Day that April was our old friend Charlie Wolferth, then Clinical Professor of Medicine. Charlie was Pathologist at the Youngstown Hospital in 1916 and went with Base Hospital 31 to France. When Dr. C. R. Clark was elevated to Consultant, Charlie took over as Chief of Medicine. After the war he went to Philadelphia to study at the University and soon became known as a national authority on heart disease.

Dr. Wolferth was succeeded in the laboratory by David L. Farley who also left to join our Base Hospital. After the war he too went to the University of Pennsylvania and became an authority on blood diseases. He is the co-author of the book "Practical Hematological Diagnosis" by Pepper and Farley.

Excerpts from a paper on "Medical Management of Peptic Ulcer" by Dr. L. S. Shensa: "Despite some opinions to the contrary, belladonna or atropine are the most satisfactory antispasmodics . . . Among the many forms of treatment, Sippy diet, alkali regimen together with the use of sedatives still ranks the highest . . . Treat the patient together with the ulcer . . . Do not temporize with hemorrhage or perforation."

New members that month were Milton M. Yarmy, John S. Goldcamp, and M. M. Szucs. J. P. Harvey was recovering from an appendectomy.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1949

Another old friend came to us with the group from the University of Buffalo for our twenty-first Post-Graduate Day. Dr. John Talbott was well known here for his work with the Harvard team which solved the riddle of heat cramps in our mills. Now he is the Editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Excerpts from an article by Milton Yarmy on "practical Diabetes Management": "The most important factors in the control of the patient are the relief of symptoms and avoidance of coma or shock, with shock the more likely to occur . . . Emotional outbursts and personality changes in diabetic children should be attributed to the insulin until proven otherwise . . . Too much insulin is a more serious hazard than too little."

New members that month were: Durbin T. Yoder, Arthur E. Rappoport, James A. Patrick, Charles W. Stertzbach and Francis J. Gambrel. What a good month for us!

TWENTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1959

John McCann was reappointed to his third term as President of the Ohio State Medical Board by Governor DiSalle.

Al Geordan became a diplomate of the American Board of Urology. G. E. DeCicco was elected President of the Medical-Dental Bureau. V. L. Goodwin was Vice-President, H. B. Hutt Secretary and R. A. Hall Treasurer.

Hugh Bennett was elected President of the Northeast Ohio Society of Internal Medicine. Leonard Caccamo was Vice-President and James Calvin Secretary-Treasurer.

William T. Martin became a member of the Society.

TEN YEARS AGO — APRIL 1969

President Tandatnick wrote a lengthy message protesting the paucity of physicians appointed to serve on the Mahoning Valley Health Planning Association. As a result, the Mahoning County Society formed its own Health Planning Committee but nobody can remember whatever became of it. At any rate, the Mahoning Valley Health Planning Association evolved into what is now known as the "Health Systems Agency". Dr. Kiskaddon, Dr. Sovik and Dr. Wegner are currently the physicians from Mahoning County appointed to HSA.

The Science Fair was held at the new Austintown High School, with the medical award judging, under the direction of Public Relations Chairman, Dr. Sam Petraglia.

The Indoctrination Committee met to welcome new members. Those being welcomed were Drs. Charles E. Johnson, Dean J. Limbert, Ikuo Maeda, Chas. H. McGowen, Ronald M. Roth, C. A. Sarantopoulos, and Bernard Schneider.

—Robert R. Fisher, M.D.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

March 13, 1979

The regular meeting of the Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, March 13, 1979, at the Youngstown Club.

Dr. Chiu reported on a meeting with Alden Cummins of the HSA. He made it clear that the official stand of the Mahoning County Medical Society is that in principle we do not endorse any cut-backs in hospital beds.

A phone call was reported concerning the new method of listing in the white pages of the current telephone directory. There is now a residence section and a business section. Doctors' offices are listed in the business section and home phone in the residence section. Each member should contact the telephone company if his listing is not correct.

Dr. Anderson, as chief delegate, reported on the Sixth District meeting, held Feb. 28 at the Medical School. The District will support Dr. C. E. Pichette for secretary-treasurer of OSMA, and Dr. Ned Grable of Stark County for a second term as alternate delegate to the AMA.

Dr. Abdu reported for the insurance committee. He submitted a comparison of the Medical Society group plan and direct pay. He also recommended the addition of three riders to our group plan: Medical Emergency Rider, Unlimited Outpatient Lab Rider and Ambulance Rider. He quoted a cost of \$33 per year for family coverage if the riders were added. The motion was made, seconded and duly passed that Council approve in principle adding \$33 to the cost of group coverage with the stipulation that definite information on exactly what is covered be brought to Council before final approval.

DISTRICT CAUCUS IS APRIL 18

The annual scheduled caucus meeting of the Sixth District, OSMA, will be held Wednesday, April 18 at Congress Lake Country Club. Delegates and alternates from Mahoning, Columbiana, Stark and Trumbull county medical societies will meet to discuss resolutions to come before the House of Delegates at the annual OSMA meeting in Columbus.

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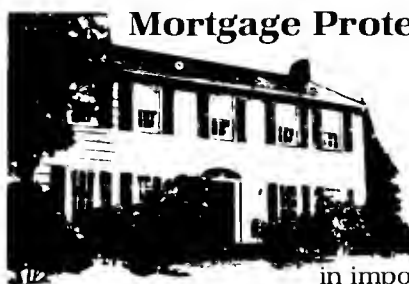


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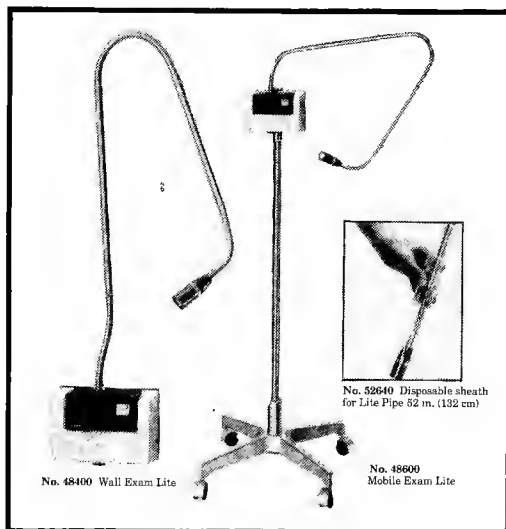
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